

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Essential Questions for American Literature

1. Why do authors choose to write a text?

2. What do we mean by text?

3. What influences are all authors, through time, subject to?

4. How do events and ideologies of a particular era influence texts?

5. How does history influence texts?

6. How does philosophy influence texts?

7. How does society's view of nature influence texts?

8. How does society's sense of optimism, fatalism, and/or pessimism influence text?

9. How can a single person, one individual influence the texts of thousands of authors?

10. How do politics influence texts?

11. How does religion influence texts?

12. How can an invention influence texts?

13. How does the belief in objective/subjective truth influence texts?

14. How does technology influence texts?

15. How does immigration and emigration influence texts?

16. Is it just texts that are subject to these influences? What else might change?

17. What is different about the way we will approach this course as compared with English 9/10?

18. Why are we studying only American (US) texts?
